



West Valley Freeway Improvements

*Grand Avenue/US 60
Project Update*

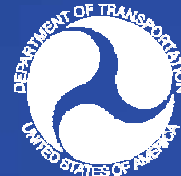




ADOT Northwest Valley Project Partners



City of Phoenix





Regional Transportation Plan (RTP)

- In 2003, Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG) developed \$15.8 billion Regional Transportation Plan
- In 2004, voters approved Proposition 400
 - Provided funding needed to implement Regional Transportation Plan
 - Extension of 1985 voter-approved plan



What is the Regional Transportation Plan?

- A Partnership between ADOT, MAG, local governments, Valley Metro and Valley Metro Rail to:
 - Manage regional transportation programs
 - Coordinate project implementation
 - Develop finance strategies
 - Foster communication and public involvement
 - Facilitate regional collaboration

Local & Tribal Governments

Business & Community Groups

Citizens

INPUT

Maricopa Association of Governments (MAG)

Develops Regional Transportation Plan

Regional Transportation Planning Process

Arizona State Legislature

Approves plan to go to voters

Prioritizes Projects

Oversees to ensure performance standards

Citizens

Approve Funding for Regional Transportation Plan*

ADOT

Implements highway projects in Regional Transportation Plan

Federal Highway Administration

Oversees ADOT compliance
Provides federal share funding

*Maricopa County voters approved current Regional Transportation Plan in November 2004.

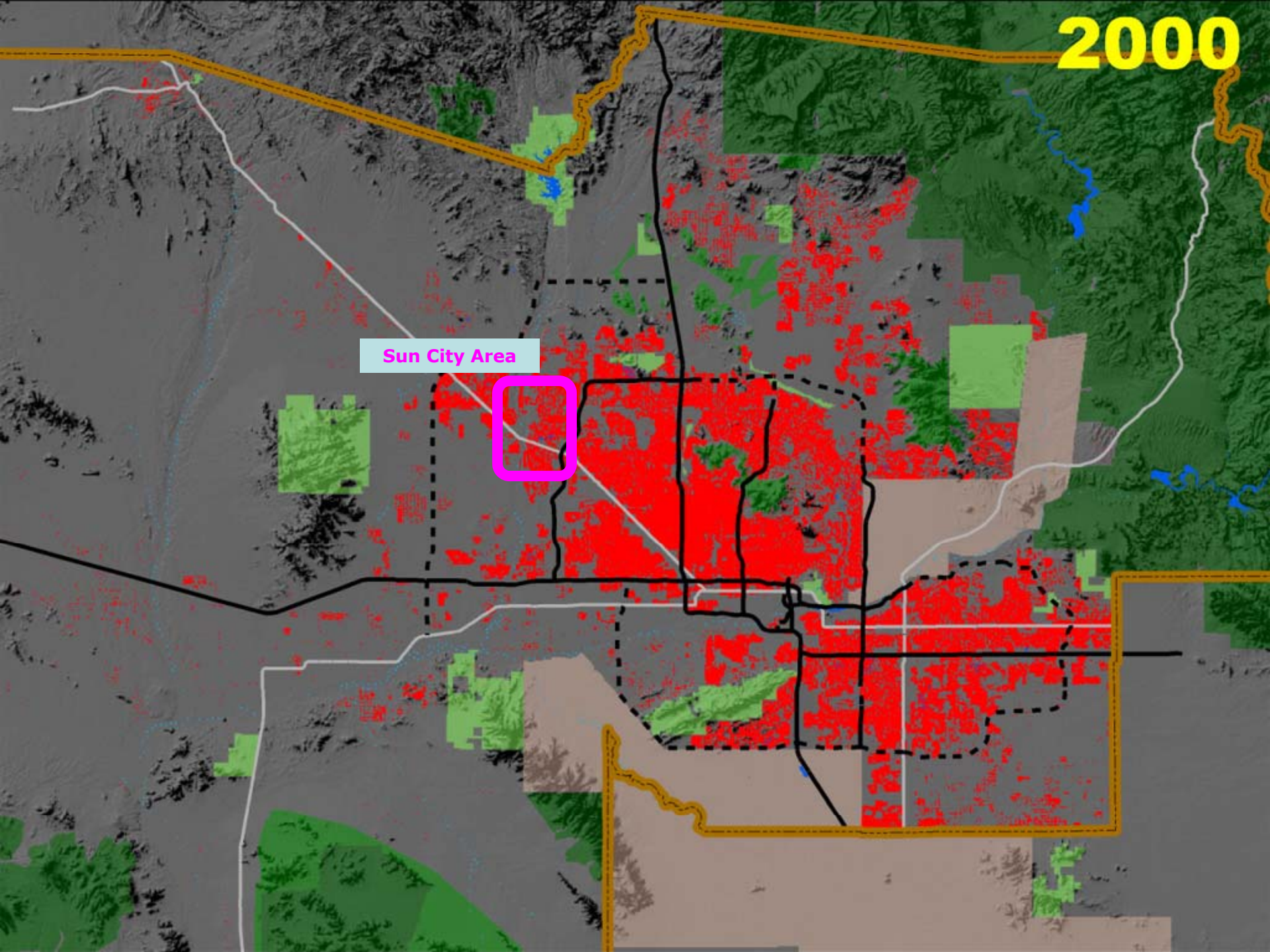


Why was a Regional Transportation Plan Needed?

- To efficiently pool and prioritize resources
- To get buy-in from all communities and agencies for a balanced program
- To meet increasing needs of the community:
 - Valley population projected to increase from 3.7 million to 5.7 million by 2025

2000

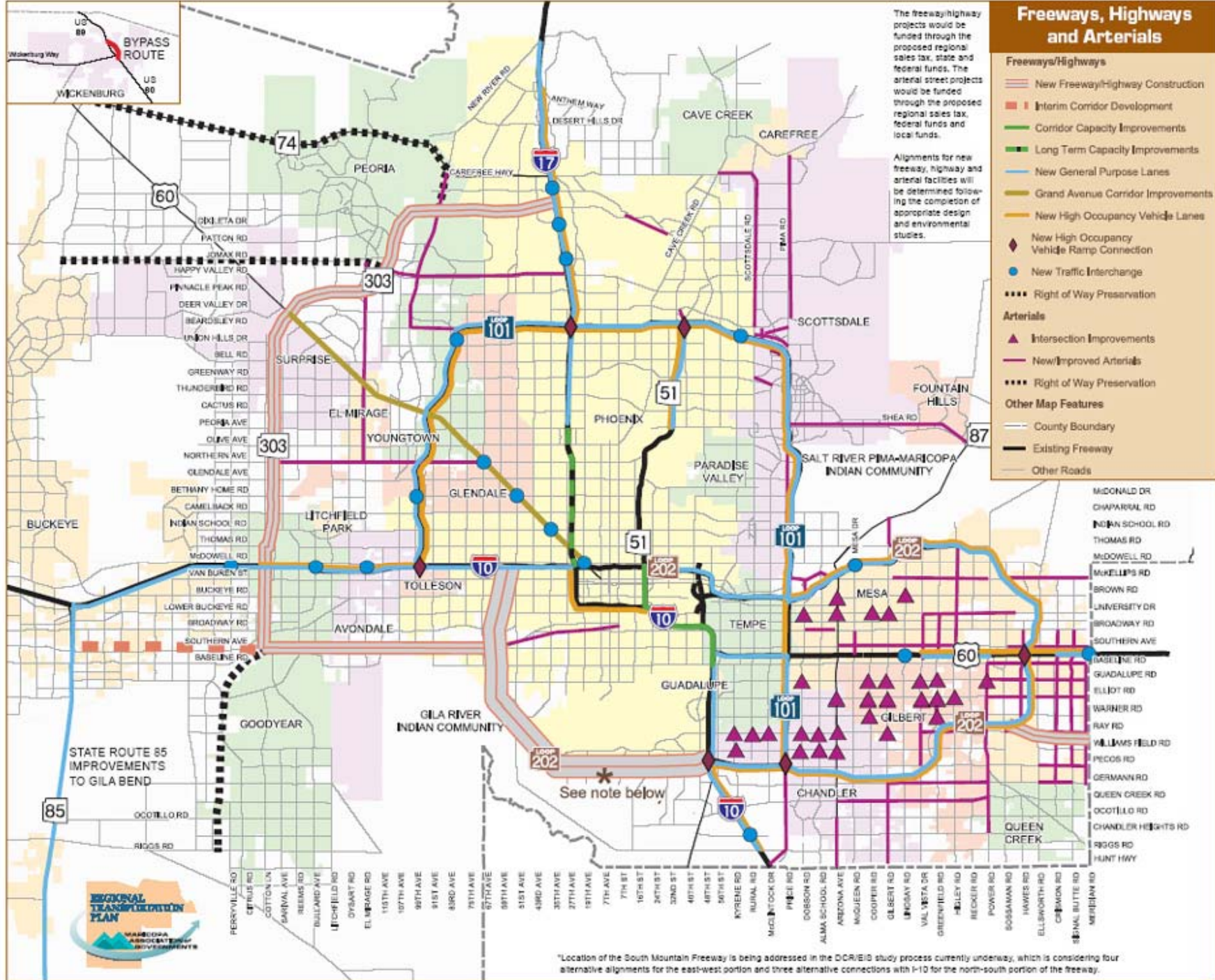
Sun City Area



2030

Sun City Area







MAG's Role: Create the Plan

- Develop Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) and conduct regional transportation planning
- Set priorities for scheduling and funding
- Approve accelerations and cost changes to RTP
- Approve air quality analysis on all regional transportation projects



ADOT's Role: Deliver the Plan

- Implement RTP Freeway Component
- Conduct studies to identify/evaluate alternatives
- Coordinate environmental reviews
- Acquire right-of-way
- Design and construct freeways
- Maintain freeways
- Approve Regional Freeway enhancements



FHWA's Role: Oversight

- Serve as lead federal agency
- Participate in study process
- Provide document review and approval
- Provide funding



Maricopa County's Role: Transportation in Sun City

- Maintain existing County roads
- Plan, design and construct new County roads and improvements
- Board of Supervisors:
 - Represent Sun City in MAG planning and prioritizing discussions
 - Represent Sun City in approaching ADOT regarding enhancements



Managing the Existing Transportation System

- Population Growth:
 - ADOT does not control land development
 - ADOT cannot require developers to pay for roads
- Rising Costs
- Environmental Issues/Studies
- Transit
 - Commuter/heavy rail options currently under study



Grand Avenue Widening Project

- Scope of current project includes:
 - Study design concepts to widen from current 4-lane to continuous 6-lane arterial street
 - Investigate and document environmental impacts
 - Recommend preferred design alternative

Planned Improvements US 60 (GRAND AVENUE)



LEGEND

- Widening Project
- General Improvements

Planned Improvements

- A** 99th to 83rd Avenues
- B** Loop 303 to 99th Avenue
- C** Loop 101 (Agua Fria Freeway) to McDowell Road*
- D** Loop 101 (Agua Fria Freeway) to Van Buren Street*

Regional Transportation Plan Phases

Phase I	2006 -2010
Phase III	2016-2020
Phase II	2011-2015
Phase IV	2021-2025

*Project pending
environmental process



Why Widen Grand Avenue?

- Primary urban arterial connecting:
 - Cities of Surprise, Peoria & Wickenburg
 - Towns of El Mirage and Youngtown
 - Unincorporated areas of Maricopa County, including Sun City and Sun City West
- Vital link in statewide highway system
 - Will become more important as growth continues to west and southwest
- Serves as link between Metro Phoenix and Las Vegas / I-15



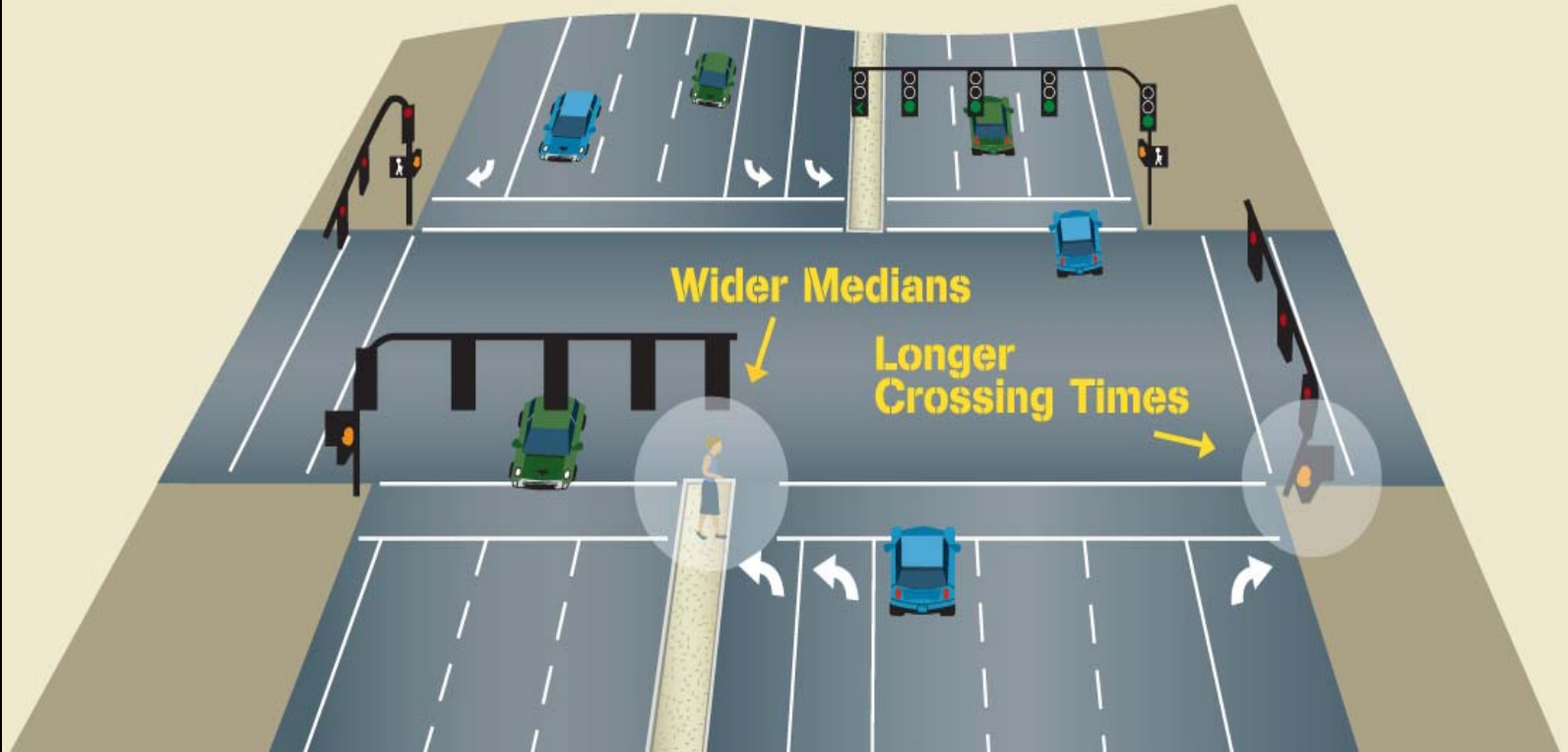
Long-term Needs for Grand Avenue Corridor

- Accommodate typical weekday traffic projections
 - 25,900 vehicles daily (west end) by 2010
 - 40,800 to 57,100 vehicles daily by 2025
- Improve...
 - Safety
 - Drainage
 - Appearance



Enhanced Safety for 103rd and 107th Avenue Intersections

- Project design will incorporate enhanced safety features for senior population:
 - For pedestrians:
 - Wider pedestrian waiting areas in median
 - Push buttons in median to prompt signal change
 - Extended crossing times
 - For drivers:
 - Enhanced signage with larger font size
 - Cutting back and straightening out the existing “pork-chop” shaped medians to provide safer sight distances



Grand Avenue Intersection Improvements



Concerns Heard from Sun City Working Group

- Concerns heard from Sun Citians relative to a wider Grand Avenue
 - Safety for residents to cross on foot, in wheelchairs and golf cars
 - Fear wider road could further divide community
 - Adequate crossing time for emergency vehicles





Community Input

- Requests for underpasses at 103rd and 107th Avenues
 - Underpass design and construction challenging due to proximity of railroad
 - No funding in RTP Phase I (2006–2010) for underpasses at these locations
 - Any change to RTP would require MAG decision
 - 'Need and feasibility' requires further study
 - ADOT committed to initiating study in summer 2007



Future Steps

- ADOT will:
 - Initiate a feasibility study for RTP Phase II (2011-2015) improvements this summer
 - Form new working group to include representation from all Grand Avenue communities - Loop 303 to Loop 101
 - Work with Grand Avenue Corridor Working Group to obtain community input for study



Loop 303 Freeway Corridor Development

- Future half-loop around West Valley
- Phased funding for a six-lane freeway
- Development to occur in stages:
 - Happy Valley to I-17 (construct interim roadway)
 - US 60/Grand Ave. to I-17 (complete to six lanes)
 - I-10 to US 60 (complete to six lanes)
 - SR 801 to I-10 (new freeway)
- Interim roadway (I-10 to I-17) by 2010
- Full completion from SR 801 to I-17 by 2017

Loop 303 Freeway Corridor Development



*Pending outcome of environmental process.



Loop 101 Agua Fria Freeway Corridor Development

- Interstate 10 to US 60 (Grand Avenue)
 - Add a new HOV (car pool) lane each direction in RTP Phase III (2016-2020)
 - Add a general purpose lane each direction in Phase IV (2021-2025)
- US 60 (Grand Avenue) to Interstate 17
 - Add a new general purpose lane and an HOV lane each direction in Phase IV
- Landscape improvements
 - Additional landscaping from Northern to 31st Avenues in fall 2007



Loop 101 Agua Freeway Corridor Development *(continued)*

- Cable median barriers
 - Upgrade barriers from Glendale Avenue to just north of Thunderbird Road to comply with new highway design standards
- Traffic Interchange improvements at:
 - Bethany Home Road – complete north half-diamond by fall 2007
 - Beardsley Road extension/connection (in partnership with City of Peoria)
 - Union Hills – improve traffic flow
 - Thunderbird Road – improve traffic flow



Loop 101 Agua Fria Freeway Projects





For More Information...

- Visit ADOT Web site:
www.ValleyFreeways.com
- Public Involvement:

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